

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:913

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000

COTTON OUTPUT

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have assessed the output of cotton for the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and to the extent to which it is likely to be more than that of the previous year;
- (c) whether any plan has been drawn up to ensure full utilisation of additional output;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure good remuneration to the cotton growers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. According to advance estimates, the production of cotton during 1999-2000 is likely to be 121.3 million bales of 170 kg each. Against this, the production during 1998-99 was 121.8 million bales. Thus, the production of cotton during the current year is expected to be marginally less than that of last year.

(c) to (e): Cotton is covered under the Minimum Support Price(MSP) scheme.While finalising MSP, various aspects like the cost of production, the input-output price parity, trends in market prices, inter crop price parity, international market price situation etc. are taken into consideration, so as to ensure remunerative prices. However, a watch is also kept on the demand and supply situation of cotton so as to take necessary remedial measures to prevent any imbalance between the two.